

REMARKS

Acknowledgment of interview

The interview with Examiner Pham by Mr. John R. Casperson, Reg. No. 28,198 and Mr. Christian Heausler, of record, on September 13, 2005 is acknowledged with appreciation. The above amendments and how they better distinguish the prior art was discussed. No agreement was reached.

Summary of amendments and support

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly point out the invention. Support for the added limitations in element (j): 00029 and the original claims. A clerical oversight has also been corrected. Claims 19,20, 21, and 22 have been similarly amended.

Claims 1-22 remain pending in the Application and have been rejected.

Rejection under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lawlor, Sr., US 6,716,262, April 6, 2004 in view of Kubokawa, US Patent Number 6,740,137, May 25, 2004. This rejection is traversed.

Claim 1 and its dependent claims distinguish the combination of references at least by the recitations of element (j). In the invention, the filter media is surrounded by the filter media support members and the inner and outer frames, and, as recited in element (j) "the pleated first edge is attached the outer frame first side and the pleated second edge is attached to the inner frame first side". In Lawlor, Sr. the filter media is attached exclusively to the inner frame, and there is no suggestion to attach one end of the filter media to the inner frame and one end to the outer frame. In fact, since the outer frame in Lawlor Sr. is part of the fixed equipment, trying to make the attachment to the outer frame would be utterly impractical, so there would be no motivation to attempt this. Lawlor in fact directs those of ordinary skill away from an adjustable filter at column 1, lines 44-54, because of expense. Further, simply providing the apparatus of Lawlor

Sr. with a filter media as in Kubokawa would not result in apparatus as currently claimed. More is required, and the more is not suggested by the combination of references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-18 is therefore requested.

Independent claims 19-22 have been amended in a manner to distinguish the prior art on the same basis as claim 1. It is therefore requested that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn as to them as well.

Conclusion

Reconsideration of this Application in view of this Response and early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

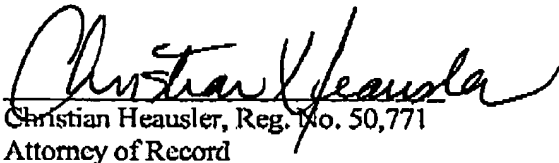
Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. John R. Casperson is hereby granted an associate power of attorney for the purposes of submitting this document.



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